

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
EUGENE, OREGON

Nov 12/59

INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

November 10, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
School of Medicine  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

I enjoyed your letter very much. I wish that Eugene were on the way to somewhere like Chicago used to be so that we could see you much more frequently.

I was interested to learn about your efforts at the Space Science Board in connection with the Man in Space program. I understand and concur in your analysis. In connection with your second point, I wonder if you would have any ideas of how the Bulletin of Atomic Scientist could be of help here. It is very interested to have an article on this conflict between political and scientific interests, if conflict it be.

I was fascinated to learn that Ierusalimskii was directly responsible for the Soviet sterilization program. I met him at Prague where I got to know him quite well. He was the most intelligent of the Russian group and we had a number of long fruitful conversations. He does, as you say, fail in his understanding of the basic issues of microbial adaptation. In connection with the note in Pravda, I think we have the right for more information as to how the Soviets sterilized their rocket. I will write to Ierusalimskii if you think it can do no harm.

Incidentally, the Pacific Division of the AAAS is holding its annual meeting in Eugene next June. An evening symposium is planned on "Man's Exploration of Space", largely at the instigation of Henry Eyring. As a local, I have been made head of the committee to arrange the symposium. I would like to have the symposium concern itself mainly with the kind of problems Westex has concerned itself with. Would you be willing to be moderator and/or one of the speakers? Who else would you suggest as speakers? Funds are available to pay transportation expenses.

*This is not  
nearly the right  
word*

I was very interested to learn that you are beginning some work on the TV microscope. I have had little experience with either TV or with microscopes and I am fascinated by the problem. I would guess illumination may be one serious difficulty.

I think it is wonderful that you will be going to Nice and I will be interested to hear what contributions the Russians make, should they come. I agree that there is no point to having another Westex meeting until more concrete issues develop. However, I am always pleased to have an excuse to visit you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Aaron".

Aaron Novick

AN:ret